



ORDER FOR THE  
PUBLIC WORSHIP *of* GOD

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April 2, 2017  
*Season of Lent*

  
**Second**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*As you enter the Sanctuary, please prepare your heart for worship  
and silence your mobile devices.*

Today we worship God for refusing to let sin destroy our relationship with Him. Put positively, He transforms hostile people into His friends through the cross. No story more beautifully illustrates this work of reconciliation than Jesus' parable of the prodigal son.

This son comes to a transforming experience of repentance. True repentance always issues into joy. The father takes his finest garment, worn only on special occasions or festivals, and puts it on his son — a sure sign of acceptance to the community. The signet ring, a symbol of trust, and sandals, showing he's a free man, not a slave, are placed upon him. The father involves the whole community in the celebration by announcing, "Let's kill the fatted calf." A calf would feed at least one hundred people. So everyone participates in the reconciliation.

The son whose sin separated him is now reconciled by his father's grace. The one who wished his father dead is now made alive by his father's mercy. He was willing to return as a servant, but his father's great love restores him as a son. Truly, celebration is in order.

*Dwight Pryor, "The Prodigal Son: The Story of a Loving Father"*

## PRAISE THE GREATNESS OF OUR RECONCILING GOD

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Trumpet Tune in D Major" . . . . . David Johnson  
*Samuel Metzger, organ*

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE:  
"Courante and Sarabande" from *Partita in C Minor* . . . . . J.S. Bach  
*David Dennis, piano*

CHORAL INTROIT: "Sing to the Lord a Song of Praise" . . . . . Allen Pote  
Sing to the Lord a song of praise, a wonderful, marvelous song.  
Sing to the Lord with joy in your heart, a wonderful, marvelous song. Alleluia!  
*The Westminster Singers (8:15), The Chancel Choir (11:00)*  
*Steve Hancock, Director*

SCRIPTURAL CALL TO WORSHIP . . . . . Timothy M. Johnson

♠HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 604 "Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart" . . . . . MARION  
*stanzas 1-5*

♠PSALTER LESSON: Psalm 24 . . . . . Rusty Shappley (8:15)  
Rob Liddon (11:00)

The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,  
the world and those who dwell therein,

**for he has founded it upon the seas  
and established it upon the rivers.**

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?  
And who shall stand in his holy place?

**He who has clean hands and a pure heart,  
who does not lift up his soul to what is false  
and does not swear deceitfully.**

He will receive blessing from the Lord  
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

**Such is the generation of those who seek him,  
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

**Who is this King of glory?  
The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord, mighty in battle!**

Lift up your heads, O gates!  
And lift them up, O ancient doors,  
that the King of glory may come in.

**Who is this King of glory?  
The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory!**

✦ CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . MARION

**Then on, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks, and sing;  
Your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing. Amen.**

✦ PRAYER OF ADORATION

SACRAMENT OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM (11:00) . . . . . D. Todd Erickson  
*William Covington Calkins, born March 12, 2017, son of Elizabeth and William Calkins*

PARENTAL VOWS

Do you acknowledge your child’s need of the cleansing blood of the Lord Jesus Christ  
and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit?

Do you claim God’s covenant promises on his behalf, and do you look to the Lord  
Jesus Christ for his salvation, as you do for your own?

Do you unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance  
upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before him a godly example, that  
you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the sacred Scriptures, and  
that you will strive, by all the means that God provides you, to bring him up in the  
nurture and admonition of the Lord?

CONGREGATIONAL VOW

Do you undertake the responsibility to assist these parents in the Christian nurture  
of their child?

SONG OF ENCOURAGEMENT: “Jesus Loves You” . . . . . JESUS LOVES ME

**Jesus loves you, this we know, for the Bible tells us so;  
Little ones to Him belong, you are weak but He is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves you! Yes, Jesus loves you!  
Yes, Jesus loves you! The Bible tells us so.**

# PRIZE THE CROSS OF OUR RECONCILING GOD

## CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Father of tender mercies, while we were still far off,  
You met us in your Son and brought us home,  
reconciling us to Yourself.  
Forgive us for our wandering hearts  
that are frequently led astray from full devotion to You.  
Pardon us for our refusal to face and resolve  
our conflicts and alienation with others.  
So move in our hearts that we gladly imitate You  
in refusing to let sin destroy our relationships.  
Go forth, O conquering God, and show us the cross,  
which is mighty to subdue, comfort and save.  
For we pray in the precious name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.**

## INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF DIVINE PARDON

♣HYMN OF ASSURANCE: No. 44 "How Great Thou Art" . . . . . O STORE GUD

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS. . . . . David A. Bowen

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM:

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" . . . . . arr. Mack Wilberg

Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by thy help I'm come;  
And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Prone to wander Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.  
Prone to wander Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

♣CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE . . . . . LENOX

**My God is reconciled;  
His pard'ning voice I hear;  
He owns me for His child,  
I can no longer fear;  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
With confidence I now draw nigh,  
And "Father, Abba, Father!" cry.**

♣PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

# PERSEVERE IN THE HOPE OF OUR RECONCILING GOD

✠GREETINGS

A WORD TO THE CHILDREN

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

EPISTLE LESSON . . . . . Colossians 1:19-23  
(page 983 in pew Bible)

All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field;

**The grass withers, the flower fades,  
but the Word of our God will stand forever. Amen.** (Isaiah 40:6b, 8)

SERMON *Christ is Our Reconciler* D. Todd Erickson

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

✠SENDING HYMN: No. 455 "And Can It Be That I Should Gain" . . . . . SAGINA

✠BENEDICTION

✠CONGREGATIONAL THREE-FOLD AMEN

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Final" from *Sonata No. 1* . . . . . Alexandre Guilmant

✠Indicates congregation standing CCLI License #252778